

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0034] of the specification with the following:

[0034] The timing of the application-layer acknowledgments sent across the low LAN interface 206 represents a covert timing channel. In one embodiment, this timing may be controlled according to an algorithm provided in the article "A Network Pump" by Kang et al., IEEE Transactions on Software Engineering, Vol. 22, No. 5, May 1996, 1996. ~~the entire contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.~~ This algorithm provides assurance that the capacity of the covert channel may be modeled and bounded analytically. For each active connection, a separate variable is maintained to reflect the moving average of the time it takes the high wrapper 506 to accept messages from the high LAN interface 204. Application-layer acknowledgments sent in response to messages received from the low wrapper 504 over the active connection are delayed randomly according to the moving average via a chosen random variable preferably of a pseudo-exponential or similar type. At the application layer, messages received over the active connection are acknowledge in the same order they are received. Information flow from the high wrapper 506 to the low wrapper 504 over a connection occurs through changes in the value of the random variable. The random variable value is not provided directly to the low wrapper 504 - instead, it is provided via the network pump 106.